RADIO-PERCEPTION

THE JOURNAL OF THE

BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

Vol. IX No. 69 SEPTEMBER, 1950

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JOURNAL OF THE
BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

Vol. IX No. 69 September, 1950

NOTICES

Members are reminded that subscriptions for the year July 1st, 1950, to June 30th, 1951, namely, one guinea for home members and half-a-guinea for members overseas, are now due.

* * * *

In order to provide evidence for inquirers and also data for meeting the prejudice against dowsing for water, which is still frequently encountered, members who practise the art are earnestly requested to send to the Editor information regarding locations made by them, on the following heads :—

(*a*) Place
(*b*) Depth, estimated and actual
(*c*) Quantity, estimated and actual
(*d*) Name and address of employer

For purposes of verification (*d*) is essential, and it is desirable that predictions regarding depth and quantity should be sent in as soon as the locations have been made.

* * * *

The following books have been added to the library :

Military Engineering, Vol. VI, Water Supply, Supplement No. 1. *The Location of Underground Water by Geological and Geophysical Methods*, 1945—95 pages

An Introduction to the Principles and Practice of Homoeopathy, by Charles E. Wheeler and J. D. Kenyon (3rd Edition), 1948—366 pages

* * * *

We much regret to record the death on July 30th, of Dr. E. T. Jensen, one of the earliest members of the Society. Appreciative notices appeared in *The Times* of August 1st and 8th.

We are also sorry to report the death on June 30th of Mr. H. George, of Auckland, New Zealand. He was a keen dowser and had developed the use of colours for radiesthetic purposes to a remarkable degree.

* * * *

Reprints of the article by Colonel K. W. Merrylees, entitled "Notes for Beginners," can be obtained from the Editor.

* * * *

Reprints of the lecture given by Dr. A. T. Westlake on December 14th, 1949, "Wanderings in the Radiesthetic Field," can be obtained from the Editor.

* * * *

Copies of a new Italian journal, *Radiesthesia*, published at Via Cimarosa, 14, Florence, under the editorship of Aldo Croceni are now being received.

* * * *

Contributions for the *Journal*, preferably in typescript, should be sent to the Editor at least five weeks before the first day of March, June, September and December if they are to appear in the respective *Journals* for those months.

* * * *

The Title Page and Contents of Vol. VIII can be obtained from the Editor on application.

* * * *

The price of new *Journals* to members, in excess of the free number, and of old *Journals*, is 2/- and 1/6 respectively.

Six free copies of the *Journal* will be given, on request, to writers of articles in it, in addition to the usual copy.

* * * *

The Society's badges can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary for 1/3 post free.

* * * *

Communications for the Editor, and inquiries, should be sent to Colonel A. H. Bell, York House, Portugal Street, London, W.C.2.

PHYSICS AND THE EXTRA SENSES

Lecture given to The British Society of Dowsers on June 15th, 1950

BY DR. R. C. THORNTON

Introducing the lecturer the Chairman said: "I think that all who have studied the phenomena of dowsing are agreed that it is an art involving a form of physical sensitiveness other than those with which every human being is familiar.

"This is a subject which comparatively few people are qualified to discuss in detail, but amongst them we can safely include our lecturer this evening —Dr. Thornton.

"For Dr. Thornton holds the double doctorate of Science and Philosophy, and is by profession a scientific and statistical consultant, being a Fellow of the Association of Incorporated Statisticians. Moreover he takes a particular interest in nuclear and mathematical physics and in radionics, and I know him to have a broadminded outlook on obscure aspects of science. We are, in fact, lucky to have him to talk to us here to-night."

1. The Senses

Before we begin to talk about "extra senses" we should be perfectly clear about what are the accepted senses in everyday use. Besides the five senses of sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch, there are at least five more, namely, heat, cold, pain, the kinaesthetic (or muscle) sense, and the sense of balance.

It may be said that heat, cold and pain—the so-called cutaneous senses—are mere variants of the touch sense. They are *not*; each is a separate sense with a particular type of receptor. Pain is unique among the senses as it has no specialised end-organ; in addition, it can be roused by over-stimulation of any other type of receptor (e.g., a brilliant light, if stared at directly, will produce a sensation of pain).

The kinaesthetic sense tells us about our muscular system. But for this sense, there would be no way of knowing, for instance, the position of our limbs, when reclining, without the use of another sense—of touch or sight, for example. This sense is completely absent in locomotor ataxia.

Before going on to consider the extra senses, let us see something of how our accepted senses let us down. Consider, for example, optical illusion. The qualities we experience are entirely different from the "real" qualities of the object seen. The phenomenon of *simultaneous contrast* is another example of how far we can trust our major sense, that of sight. The others are no less erratic: consider the consecutive immersion of a finger into cold and warm water—here is a cutaneous sense defrauding us, for the warm water will feel hot by contrast. Contrast is the seat of most erroneous sense impressions. The cause of contrast phenomena is still unknown, although there has been a wealth of speculation. Most of these theories postulate a compensatory process of some sort, and it would seem that the explanation should be sought in the brain.

2. The Extra Senses

As we have now considered the normal senses, let us agree on the extra-senses. Students of paranormal phenomenal tend, at the present time, to class all of them together and give them a group name. These extra senses are generally agreed to fall into the categories of telepathy, clairvoyance, precognition, psychometry and psychokinesis. Perhaps a short definition of each of these should be included here.

By *Telepathy* we usually mean communication of impressions from one person to another, independently of the accepted senses.

Clairvoyance is taken to mean the ability to be aware of scenes and events not available to any of the accepted senses, and even, in some cases, removed in time.

Precognition supposes the forecasting of events happening in the future.

Psychometry denotes the power of diagnosing personal characteristics of a subject from an article belonging to that subject.

By *Psychokinesis* is meant the power of influencing matter at a distance, independently of mechanical agency.

Dr. J. B. Rhine, of Duke University, groups all these faculties, except psychokinesis under the genetic heading of E.S.P.; Whately Carington calls then "paranormal cognition," and Dr. Thouless, of Cambridge, gives them the name "psi-faculties," probably the best term to use, being completely unambiguous. "Psi" is simply the first letter of the Greek word for "mind."

Students working on these senses have shown that a certain set of data may appear to demonstrate the use of one faculty whereas in truth there is nearly always a combination of faculties at work.

3. Research into Psi-Faculties

There is one fact that I would stress now and that is that the scientific examination of these phenomena cannot be left to airy metaphysicians and spiritualists. There is a great need for purely objective experimentation and research, which are the tools of physics.

Professor Rhine, at his laboratory at Duke, has already done good work on the demonstration of the existence of these faculties. For example, he uses a special pack of cards to demonstrate psi-phenomena. The cards, 25 in a pack, consist of five each of five separate designs, viz.: a circle, a square, a cross, a star and wavy lines. These can be used for a large number of different experiments and, by carefully selected tests, the extra senses can be subdivided to a certain extent. By employing an agent to look at the cards to be guessed, it was thought that the telepathic faculty could be established whereas if the subject guessed correctly in the absence of an agent, the success was attributed to clairvoyance. But similar successes were obtained with targets removed in *time*—believed to demonstrate precognition. Owing to the general difficulty, however, of dif-

ferentiating these faculties and as a result of long-term similarity of results, Rhine soon decided that all were simply aspects of one sense, E.S.P., each aspect being demonstrated according to the design of the experiment. For instance, if telepathy were demonstrated, it was because the test was made *for* telepathy.

It is now pretty well agreed that Rhine has shown conclusive evidence for extra sensory perception (E.S.P.) and psychokinesis (P.K.), but what of the *cause* and *seat* of these faculties? And what of their physiology? The physics and physiology of sight, hearing, &c., are fairly well established; now what of the physical laws of the psi-faculties?

Dr. Soal, of London University, was the first physicist to turn his attention to this problem. His first experimental success was the demonstration that distance between target and subject was no barrier and that a lead screen between them did not affect results.

Professor H. Price, of Oxford, has also thrown light on the subject. He believes that the law of association is fundamentally responsible for all psi-phenomena and Carington's *K-objects*—or association objects—would appear to substantiate this. There is no limit to the number of K-objects. It is believed that the mental mechanism works as follows:—

Let us suppose that telepathy is to be demonstrated. The sender is attempting to send a picture of a cat (the telepathic or T-idea). Outside the window of his room is a large tree, and for the purposes of this experiment, let us assume that the receiver can see this, or another, large tree. The sender mentally links his T-idea (the cat) with the K-idea (the tree) and "sends" a picture of a cat sitting in the tree. The receiver, concentrating of th K-idea, the tree, outside his window, will most probably receive a mental picture of the cat.

To revert to Price's theory, he postulates that it is the general tendency of ideas to find expression in matter. (This can easily be proved by anyone, after a few minutes' reflection). The unconscious mind has no spatio-temporal bounds, and is only divided from consciousness by the "threshold," or censor. It is therefore possible for what is in one person's consciousness to be forecast by another person or for a certain set of physical factors to come into action as a result of the idea becoming materially expressed. At the unconscious level, there is no sharp distinction between minds, and whether an idea emerges into one person's consciousness or another's depends on the suitability of context of each individual consciousness. Each idea competes with each other idea to cross the threshold, and the power to cross the threshold depends on the laws of association. In other words, if two ideas are connected in a certain set of circumstances and if subsequently one idea is presented to consciousness, it is likely that the associated idea will also arise.

The mental mechanism of the extra senses, then, is relatively simple. But physicists and physiologists will ask, "What areas of the brain are concerned in the demonstration of these faculties?" and "what is actually perceived?"

Physicists working on the problem appear to have solved the first question in a general way. It is fairly certain that an area midway between the frontal pole and the precentral gyrus is concerned in the psi-faculties. The infra-red band of radiations between 10,000 and 100,000 A°U seems to affect this area. In experiments designed to corroborate this, the intellectual power of the subjects diminished under irradiation of this area but their paranormal faculties were considerably heightened. (One female subject correctly guessed eight successive dice-throws!). However, the actual physiography of the brain areas concerned remains to be mapped out.

With reference to the second question, practically all living matter emanates volatile inorganic and organic compounds. These can interact, due mainly to the colloidal structure of proteins of living matter. Because of their great speed of diffusion the emanations appear to be a type of radiation. This would help to explain psychometry. Furthermore, in P.K. experiments, humidity of atmosphere in England often causes failure, but apparently the radiation field of man can affect falling objects.

Then there are the well-known "shadow" phenomena and the demonstrable "radiation-aura" of man, composed of infra-red radiation. These, nevertheless, are not sufficient, in view of the observed independance in time and space of psi-faculties, to explain them. There would seem to be some subtle interaction, maybe of an extra-dimensional nature, to explain the known facts. It is as if the various energyic fields themselves were transportable in space and time!

Much the same difficulty has been encountered in research in the Radionic field. It is the writer's own belief that the question of postulating an interaction is unnecessary if matter—and of course the human body—is conceived as being a lower harmonic of mind. The decay of the body as a result of what is called death would then be traceable to the higher-order decay of mind, i.e., cessation of consciousness.

The need, however, at the present time, is for more physicists to enter the field of paranormal research, in which case such postulates may be investigated at the physical level and a symposium built up from all the conflicting and complementary theories that are extant at the present time. The mental mechanism of psi-faculties is now fairly well explained; the physical mechanism is little known. When the latter is as clear as the former, our ideas of space, time, life—and indeed, ourselves—may become clarified and lead to a better understanding of our world and of our purpose in it.

TRACING THE LOST

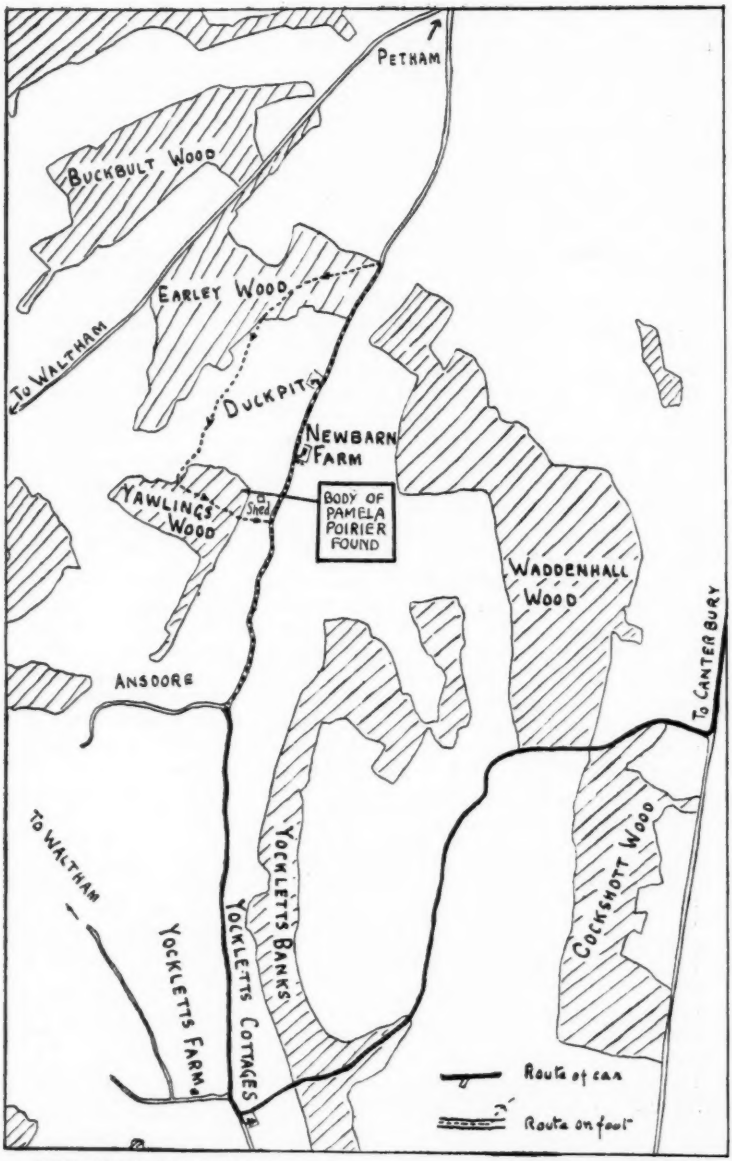
ACCOUNT OF AN ATTEMPT BY LESLIE J. LATHAM, ESQ., TO DISCOVER THE WHEREABOUTS OF A MISSING CHILD IN THE WALTHAM AREA, NEAR CANTERBURY, 23RD APRIL, 1950.

1. Two sisters, Jean and Pamela Poirier, wards of the Kent County Council, were boarded out with foster parents, George Gerioch Gordon and his wife, at Yockletts Cottages, Evington Road, Waltham, near Canterbury. Jean was five years old and Pamela was three years and ten months old.

2. At 9.30 a.m. on Sunday, 16th April, 1950, Mr. Gordon reported to the local police constable that Pamela was missing from her bed. It was alleged that she was known to be safely in her bed at 10 p.m. the previous night. An immediate search of the house and nearby outhouses produced no result and neighbours could offer no clue. Civilians, troops and police worked throughout the ensuing eight days in a sustained and intensive effort to find the child. Wells were drained by the Fire Brigade. Search and enquiries were instituted over a wide area radiating from Yockletts Cottages. A trained police dog was used during the evening of the 16th instant, and again during the early morning of the 17th instant. Absolutely no trace of the missing child was found and no information was obtained tending to throw any light on the mystery.

3. At approximately 3 p.m. on Sunday, 23rd April, 1950, I met Mr. L. J. Latham for the first time. Up to that moment we were quite unknown to each other. We were introduced by C.S.M. Wood, at Canterbury Barracks, and Detective Constable Butler, of this Force (Kent County Constabulary), was also present. Mr. Latham was aware of the circumstances surrounding the disappearance of the child, Pamela Poirier, as published in the national newspapers, and there was little or nothing which could be usefully added to that information.

4. A bedroom slipper belonging to the missing child was handed to Mr. Latham and he was also provided with a copy of the standard East Kent Ordnance Sheet (Scale 1in. to 1 mile). The location of Yockletts Cottages, Waltham (m.r. 124477), was pointed out on the map to Mr. Latham who, thereafter, operated with a ball pendulum. The "operation" was as follows:—The pendulum was held between the thumb and index finger of the right hand whilst the missing child's slipper was held against the palm of the hand with the remaining three fingers. A slight smooth motion of the hand resulted in impetus being given which started the pendulum swinging—forwards and back—forwards and back. Then, with the pendulum swinging and the slipper held as described, the hand was moved slowly and steadily over the map—so that the pendulum swung quite closely



THE AREA OF SEARCH

Scale 3 miles to the inch

to it. This action was carried over an area representing several square miles of country all round Yockletts Cottages.

5. In very few seconds after commencing the test Mr. Latham claimed that he detected emanations from the area to the north of Yockletts Cottages and indicated an area between one and two miles from the cottages towards Petham village. A larger scale map of the locality was produced (six inches to one mile) and precisely the same procedure as has already been described was again followed—with this map. On this occasion it was very noticeable that when the pendulum was brought above a certain area of the map the swinging motion changed to a strong gyration. This gyration was very definite and was repeated on every occasion the test was made. I watched most closely to detect even the slightest movement on the part of the operator to induce this variation and I am quite convinced that the gyration was not so produced. This response was evident only over the area which, on the map, included Yawlings Wood, Duckpits, Earley Wood and New Barn Farm. The latter is marked on the map but is not named. It is within one hundred yards of Duckpits. Mr. Latham then borrowed a knitting needle and used that in his left hand in addition to the pendulum and slipper in his right hand. He was quite definite in his assertion that the emanations indicated either :—

(*a*) the location of Pamela Poirier—alive

(*b*) the location of Pamela Poirier's dead body, or

(*c*) the location of portions of the child's body and/or clothing.

6. At 7 p.m. that same evening Mr. Latham, accompanied by C.S.M. Wood, D.C. Butler and myself travelled by car to Yockletts, Waltham. The car was stopped near the cottages but no-one left the vehicle. We then went on towards Petham and stopped the car at Ansdore turning. We left the car there and walked towards Petham. At this stage Mr. Latham produced a divining rod made of two pieces of whalebone joined together at one end. He held one of the free ends in each of his hands with the " joined " end pointing away from himself. The road on which we were walking passes all the places named previously as having emanations. Yawlings Wood was on the left—about one hundred and ten yards from the roadway. When passing the wood Mr. Latham commented, " I get a definite pull here." This comment was repeated more than once and, in addition, Mr. Latham mentioned a shed which was in the field between the roadway and the wood. New Barn Farm was passed next—on the right hand side of the roadway. Then came Duckpits and then Earley Wood on the left. Earley Woods has a track which traverses it diagonally from north-east to south-west. We followed that track with the divining rod still in use. Afterwards, without following any convenient track we walked through undergrowth, over fences and other obstacles and followed a

direction which, more or less, tended steadily in the direction of Yawlings Wood.

7. It was becoming quite dark when we reached the north-west corner of Yawlings Wood. We entered the wood—walked through it—and emerged on the eastern side. Then we crossed the field and reached the roadway. Whilst in the wood and also after leaving it, Mr. Latham repeatedly said, with emphasis, "The wood must be thoroughly investigated."

8. On regaining the roadway we retraced our steps towards New Barn Farm. Here Mr. Latham used the divining rod and declared that strong emanations were present in a midden adjoining the roadway. The rod was seen to react quite vigorously and a particular area of the midden was defined very clearly. Before leaving this vicinity Mr. Latham stated his intention of returning from London on the Tuesday (25th) if possible, and of further investigating Yawlings Wood. I undertook to investigate the midden at New Barn Farm on the following morning—Monday, 24th. Mr. Latham added that if it became necessary he would remain in the area on Tuesday and Wednesday to complete his tests.

9. Subsequently we all returned to Yockletts Cottages and entered the house occupied by the Gordons—the adjoining house is unoccupied. Mr. Latham tested the bedroom from which the missing child had disappeared. He excluded the window as having been the means by which the child left the room—but traced the child down the stairs and out through the back door. He stated, with emphasis, that the child was not buried in the garden of the house—but claimed to detect her emanations strongly near a corner of the house. No further tests were made and at approximately 9.40 p.m. we returned to Canterbury.

10. At 11 p.m. I returned to Canterbury Police Station having seen Mr. Latham on his train for London. I was then informed that as a result of certain developments in the case the approximate location of the missing child was known. It was stated that she was dead. I immediately asked my superiors that I might be allowed to explain to them the work done by Mr. Latham—about which they knew nothing—and further, that I might test his work by pointing out on the map—*before they gave me any further information*—the places which he had indicated as justifying investigation. This was sanctioned. I pointed out Yawlings Wood and New Barn Farm and was informed that from the information then to hand it did appear that the missing child was, in fact, buried in Yawlings Wood.

11. At 6.30 p.m. on Monday, 24th April, 1950, I was present at Yawlings Wood when the body of Pamela Poirier was disinterred at a spot about 30 yards inside the edge of the wood nearest the road—directly in line with the hut specifically mentioned by Mr. Latham (para 6).

12. I attach hereto illustrations showing the route followed and the locality of the search described in this report. I wish to place on record that throughout this investigation with Mr. Latham I acted completely without the knowledge of my superior officers and that this report is a true record of the circumstances —in which I acted as a private individual and not as a Police Officer. It is true that the actual discovery of Pamela Poirier's body was not due to the investigations carried out by Mr. Latham. However, having now seen this demonstration by him—in the presence of C.S.M. Wood and Detective Constable Butler—which demonstration was necessarily curtailed owing to the lateness of the day—I am convinced—against myself—that Mr. Latham could have located the child, and would have located the child within a very few hours if he had not been forestalled. It must be remembered that he was without any "pointers" whatsoever as to which direction and how far the child had gone—or had been taken. Yet, with the whole country from which to choose he clearly indicated the burial place—*within a margin of a few yards.*

(Signed) J. R. GRIFFITHS,
50 Hillside Avenue,
Canterbury, Kent.

I was present throughout the events described in the above record of tests by Mr. Leslie J. Latham, at Canterbury and Waltham, on Sunday, 23rd April, 1950. This record is true.

(Signed) M. E. BUTLER

I was present throughout the events described in the above record of tests by Mr. Leslie J. Latham, at Canterbury and Waltham, on Sunday, 23rd April, 1950. This record is true. I was not present when Inspector Griffiths pointed out on a map, to his superior officers, where Mr. Latham had been working—and to that extent only am I unable to authenticate this document.

(Signed) G. E. WOOD, C.S.M.

NOTE BY L. J. LATHAM

1. I have studied the Inspector's Report and in all material particulars concur with its contents. It may be accepted by the interested bodies as a scrupulously fair and impartial survey of the events it records. The value of the document as evidence for the possibilities of divining as an aid in certain limited classes of Police enquiry, is apparent. Apart from this it may not be out of place to record that the Report is praiseworthy in itself as embodying an exact chronicle of events in their proper sequence, since it embodies the specially accurate recollection in retrospect that characterises the professionally trained observer. Obviously, a diviner himself is properly all too engrossed in his survey to memorise sufficient material for the production of such a document, and being himself often "imported," he lacks the necessary topographical knowledge.

2. I accept and confirm the fact that Inspector Griffiths and Detective Constable Butler were acting, as was their right, entirely in their private capacity. How private that capacity could have remained had the case not broken within the eleventh hour of our efforts remains, for the layman, an interesting speculation. Judging from the comforting speed with which the official presence of policemen is conjured when occasion arises, one presumes that they are only faintly off-duty at any time. Certainly upon this occasion our team was sufficiently undisguised to reveal useful exhibitions of systematic energy, of exhaustive local knowledge and a co-operation valuably silent. There was also a commendably rigid (if at times amusingly strained) impartiality difficult enough to achieve in such strange circumstances. That the venture approached as near success as it did, in fact, is due in no small measure to this psychological restraint on the part of the observers. Hence, probably too, the clarity of the Report.

3. As the initiated are aware, the acutely sensitive balance of perceptive faculties that make up divining is all too easily disturbed, and it is thus fortunate that the Canterbury case involved two such open-minded observers. Weird and in many respects startling as the transaction must have seemed to them, there was no want of either patience or of consideration. Indeed it seems fitting to recall here that in common with their colleagues, both officers had suffered a gruelling week of search over rough country at various hours of the day and night as well as in all weathers. Under the most discouraging conditions with the central mystery darkening hourly to possible tragedy upon the mind, the whole available Force had toiled with all its skill against an ugly problem. To add to their sense of frustration certain sections of the popular Press had already assumed that destructive querulousness of language that is a feature of a toppling circulation. Yet despite obvious fatigue and disappointment, the two officers in question had abandoned an off-duty period, not in any sense of taking part in a stunt, but in order that "even divination" might be tried. Also deserving of honourable mention is the ubiquitous Staff Serjeant Major G. Wood, of the Royal Corps of Signals, stationed at Canterbury Barracks. This Warrant Officer worked with our team until a late hour, even joining us in our twilight penetrations of dense woodland. He and Mrs. Wood placed at the expedition's disposal their home and hospitality as an indispensable base of operations. Mr. Wood will be remembered as an old and tried member of the British Society of Dowsers, and it was at his instance that divination came to be employed.

4. It ought at this stage to be stressed that at the outset of operations I drew attention to the many adverse factors. For example, the child had been missing a long time. A great many

persons, all more or less in states of emotional tension, had crossed any trail that might exist. The countryside had been drenched by heavy rains and swept across by typically gusty April weather. The thorough nature of the search in the interval suggested complete abduction from the district. We were seeking a small child whose limited walking range at night compelled one to assume that a person or persons unknown had carried her. Having at that moment no suspect for the latter role, we were without samples of his or her/their clothing. All these considerations combined to rule out the classical text-book method of crossing the terrain bloodhound fashion from disappearance-point to hiding-place. The classical apologetics of this rare but ancient class of divination are briefly that persons behaving under great emotional stress impregnate as it were the physical fabric of their clothes, dwellings, chattels, even the very terrain across which they tread. This impregnation equivalates to what the French call *rémanence*, and is, in fact, a remaining-behind of the intensified personal nervous pattern, or " aura " as our *exceedingly* distant spiritualist cousins would term it. That this aura, in fact, exists is within the experience of even the most hard-headed among us whenever we have been in a company a member or section of which has disliked us. Despite all surface pleasantries, we have felt unerringly the element of dislike directed against us. By holding a sample of this intensified pattern in the form of clothing and so on, the diviner professes to establish a sympathy within his own nervous system to the same pattern deposited along the track of the missing person. This valuable intensified and detectable pattern is manifest alike in the track of both victim or assailant the effects of guilt or terror being of similar intensity. The modern encephalograph of brain therapy and the crude " lie-detector " of the world's less ethically restrained Police forces are examples of instruments recording at close range this step-up in thought-intensity. We shall return presently to a scientific appreciation of the dowser's claims. In the meanwhile, we must add to the foregoing that on this occasion we were driven to resort to the unsatisfactory methods of longer-range divination by map and pendulum. In view of this I was compelled to warn the officers concerned that I offered only a twenty per cent. chance of results. Privately, I was also very worried over my own special fatigue which could not fail but be reflected in my accuracy. I had for some nights been working beyond twelve-thirty.

5. As to the actual operation which followed, I can add nothing materially to the description so vividly drawn by the Inspector himself. As a minor point of interest, however, the rod described as employed on the spot was of the usual black whalebone favourite among diviners today. The pendulum was of the usual shape and size as those habitually employed, save

that it was of real elephant ivory and not merely whale ivory. I am now sensible of my duty to hazard an explanation of the highly suspicious " shadow " emanations I claimed to find manifest on both map and terrain. Clearly the child could be buried in only one spot out of the four offered from the survey by myself. Three must on the face of it be wrong. In retrospect, a number of possible reasons occur to explain this " muzzy definition " if I may so call it. The most simple is that the operator was in sheer error due either to inability, lack of practice or to fatigue. And having regard to the relatively approximate correctness of one of the four emanations I might without shame accept this verdict and still leave impressive laurels to divination. Against this defeatist verdict, however, there stands in rebuttal the significant fact that no similar flights of error were indulged over any of the other likely spots across the wide wealds of Kent. Moreover, these shadow, or reflection-images, were situated peculiarly en route for the most part, to the place of interment. My own theory for the images lies in the undoubted link between the nervous system of the operator and the highly pungent mental state of the person carrying the child (for what other link have we to consider in remote map-work ?). In other words, so soon as this case shall have receded safely onto the pages of the Law Reports, I expect to discover that the persons carrying Pamela that night did, in fact, successively *contemplate* the advantages offered by the other spots as alternative hiding places.

6. Before leaving the actual divining operation, it is necessary to add that there was present in the shoe of Pamela a strand of her hair measuring some five inches in length. The presence of this was, of course, accidental, and may have had its origin in the fact that a recent pre-decease combing of the child's hair had deposited the strand in the slipper. This accidental strand was welcomed as offering considerable amplification of the missing child's personal emanation. There were also present in the slipper, however, two divinatory disadvantages. In the first place the slipper itself had not suffered that typically long wear that adults love to accord their slippers. Children of Pamela's size it will be recalled, grow out of such things rapidly. This meant that the sample-impregnations, if I may so call them, of the slipper were of dangerous short-standing and thus perhaps hardly of the strength the task demanded. The second disadvantage lay in the accidental presence in the slipper of two hairs of the family's pet dog Glenny. Looking back upon the operation I will now admit that I should have been well advised to have accepted Mr. Wood's suggestion to have removed these two hairs. After hasty consideration I expressly allowed them to remain, and as a consequence experienced difficulty in declaring whether the child was alive or dead, this due to the overlapping influence of the animal.

7. The whole question of the search by divination for missing persons offers no easy scientific presentation, certainly not at any rate within the scope of this note. Indeed it is only in recent years that physicists have succeeded in wresting ordinary ground divining from the grasp of spiritualism. And indeed there is ample evidence in the grim history of man's long traffic with the Devil to suggest that the diviner was often the tool of mere witchcraft and of magic. Despite the difficulties however, we may take comfort from the fact that there are in certain circumstances tangible links of a healthily non-occult character between living and dead organisms. These links are often but faintly detectable, but are nevertheless observable even by sceptics if they care to look. Before passing to a short review of these links I should state at once that I am not here offering irreverence to recognised Christian truth as I am discussing a quite independent phenomena.

8. We turn now to the observed and carefully reported behaviour of what I may term the scavenger-fauna, which demonstrate ample evidence of the link referred to. To cite only a few, owls, vultures, jackals and sharks reveal the power in everyday life, and this without any trace of occultism in the West End sense. For example, a distinguished ornithologist lately reported the apparently inexplicable phenomena that an owl with which he experimented in a darkened room unerringly located living mice. It quite failed, however, to locate dead ones, although the owl finds either palatable. In considering the vulture, who because of his repulsiveness escapes much scientific write-up, I have myself in Cairo noted the birds circling a house a few hours prior to the death of a mortally sick occupant. In both cases the houses were cleanly and neatly kept, with no external sign that could have communicated the birds their grim invitation. As to sharks, we know it to be no sailor's myth that they appear astern prior to a sea burial. Or, if one wishes to come nearer home, we have but to consider the peculiar howling of sometimes quite distant farm dogs in lonely districts at the onset of a human death ; a performance which can be compared with similar unpleasant abilities on the part of jackals in the East.

9. What is the nature of this extraordinary emanation which the roving detector-mechanism of Nature's scavengers picks up so unerringly, at long range ? Whatever the true nature of the emanation, it does undergo a subtle change at sickness or dissolution which is interpreted by the constantly "tuned-in" scavengers. Possibly this, and the answer to many another scientific problem lies already half-solved behind the guarded walls of our atomic research stations. We shall for many years be doomed however to be kept in ignorance of recent findings upon the nature of matter, as many discoveries are tangled up with increas-

ing security aspects. Despite this we are on occasions afforded glimpses to awaken us to the realisation that even an apparently dead organism continues to radiate something. To quote one recently observed activity now attracting widespread attention, there is the method of dating archæological deposits by the radio-activity present in carbon of bones and plants. For reasons too technical to discuss here, organic carbons lack the stability of inorganic ones. As a result, atoms of organic carbon tend to be slightly radio-active. In other words they throw off a steady stream of electrons. Living organisms keep alive by taking on board carbon in the form of food. At dissolution carbon naturally ceases to be so absorbed, and that remaining at the moment of death slowly looses the intensity of its radio-active emanation. The rate, however, is so gradual, that it is estimated that the atom is still at half-strength after some 5,000 years. Thus by assessing the activity of the discovered remains, a possible dating can be arrived at.

10. It is not my purpose to suggest that such sluggish give-off is the clue to our scavenger and diviner problem, but there is in my opinion evidence that this is the avenue we must explore for our explanation of something that looks otherwise uncanny. As a matter of encouragement to this theory by no means all elements are as slow as carbon in their give-off and there do in point of fact exist atoms whose activity is almost instant in exhaustion. In view of this, it would appear conceivable that the so-called scavenger species referred to have secreted within their elemental nervous system a type of Geiger counter mechanism which records changes of emanation for them at long range. Man for his part retains in a smothered fashion but a faint trace of these primordial instincts which other forms of life so effortlessly demonstrate. Centuries of reliance upon mechanics and reason have naturally weakened men's more disused functions that must so admirably have served him in the early jungles of his development, so much so that almost as an excuse for his helplessness, he often prefers to discredit their very existence. One still hears quite sane and hardheaded persons unguardedly speaking of their "premonitions" and "funny feelings," however. In the diviner, we may regard the rod as merely a convenient index or amplifier of these submerged flutterings now receded deep into a highly evolved nervous system. The functions of that nervous system in the more common form of ground divining are of similar origin, but their discussion has no place here.

11. Before closing the chapter upon vultures we may still note the somewhat terrifying faculty of anticipation with which they are credited. Lord Chelmsford in his Diary of the Zulu War, affirms that at Isandhlwana these birds darkened the sky some six hours before the contending scouts had sighted each other. This on the face of it defies explanation, until we recall

the tremendous power of auto-suggestion as evidenced for example in the simple will-to-live which doctors strive to instil into patients as a recovery aid. We cannot presuppose in vultures a sense of tactical appreciation which would have attracted them, as all bodies of men are the same from such heights. We are forced, instead, to the startling conclusion that our emanations suffer a detectable change for the worse by the very act of even mentally resigning ourselves to imminent death. And we may take it that at this stage of the campaign few men on either side had many illusions as to what their ultimate fate might be!

TELEPATHY : A SUGGESTION

BY OSCAR BAGNALL

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I wonder whether those interested in the transmission of thoughts have considered the possibility of human radiations being the agent—radiations emitted by the nervous system in general, and by the brain in particular.

I am a biologist, having no knowledge of, and but little interest in, the occult, but I have gathered considerable evidence that rays emitted by our bodies have a wave-length somewhere in the ultra-violet region—probably just short of our visible range, but within that of nocturnal animals, the retinas of whose eyes are studded with nerve-endings not unlike those which we use for night-seeing and which are blinded by daylight.

Although such eyes cannot distinguish colours, as such, they are aware that the wave-lengths which appear to us as (say) yellow and blue, are different. They are not able to detect red at all, but, for compensation, their spectrum extends slightly into the ultra-violet country, as I pointed out in an article published in *Country Life* of August 5th, 1949.

Rays incident upon our bodies are presumably re-emitted as emanations, radiations, auras—call them what you will—with an altered wave-length. I suggest that rays of short wave-length are re-emitted as a haze around us and that the fluorescent substance responsible for the alteration of wave-length that causes the production of this haze is our nervous tissue. It seems that, although these radiations are just not visible to our eyes, unless we have sensitised them by the use of special apparatus —I used a dicyanin screen—it is probable that many animals can detect them clearly as a haze surrounding us.

The dicyanin screen to which I have just referred, consisted of a hollow biconvex lens which was made of plastic material and was filled with a solution of the coal-tar dye, dicyanin ; the use of such a screen for a short period each day gradually alters the

range of our visible spectrum, enabling us to see slightly into what would normally be the ultra-violet region. The power given by such a sensitising screen is accumulative, but is soon lost when the sensitising practice is discontinued. One might describe its action as being that of making the eyesight young again, since it tends to correct long sight, to which older people are subject.

Part of these radiations will run to a magnet, though I have found that this phenomenon applies only to that part in the immediate vicinity of our bodies; the farther edge of the haze that envelops us appears to have no appreciable mass and to vary considerably in different individuals. Sometimes thin pencils of rays, somewhat brighter than the rest of the haze, can be seen carrying on beyond it and extending for a considerable distance. Evidence all points to the nervous system—and especially the brain, naturally—as being responsible for this outer haze, which seems certainly to be of ultra-violet wavelength. The less interesting inner aura may be emitted by tissue of hypoblastic origin.

The aura disappears when death takes place; it is not possible for it to be left behind as a ghost to go a-haunting. It fades in cases where the subject undergoing inspection becomes unconscious, for instance owing to a fainting attack, but gradually reappears as consciousness returns. I have tried the effect of a Wimshurst machine with the result that the inner aura becomes extended further from the body, possibly owing to the material particles being shot further afield beyond the outer haze.

Is it possible that these occasional bright pencils of rays that I have mentioned can register themselves on the auric fields of others in reasonably close proximity to them? I am not suggesting that interference takes place in the waves and, even if it did, I cannot see how rays that have already left the body—and are travelling away from it—could signal back along their own tracks such interference in the amplitude of their waves. Possibly the increased energy due to the interference may be able to make itself felt on the receiving nervous tissue of another person or animal and thus carry some sort of impression to the brain. I do not pretend to know. I do suggest, however, that animals that can *see* the auras of their fellows can optically read changes in that part of the haze for which the brain is responsible. The team-work of lions when hunting together at night is uncanny. I know they are able to "throw" the voice as well as a ventriloquist, and do when out of sight of one another, but they also seem to anticipate each other's moves as though they were gifted with the power of thought-reading.

Whether we have a receiving station for such a transmission is simply in the realms of guesswork. What remains of the pineal eye which was situated on the top of the head in reptilian

days and which is becoming modified into a gland, the pineal body in the brain, has been associated with ultra-violet reception. However, your guess is as good as mine.

Reverting to the question of fluorescent tissue, suppose that artificial ultra-violet rays alone are allowed to play upon the body —rays from a mercury-vapour arc lamp. These rays will be absorbed by the body and re-emitted as an aura around it, which is visible to the human eye only if sensitised, but is clearly seen by animals.

Since the ultra-violet rays incident upon the body are invisible, the emitted rays must have had their wave-lengths changed (lengthened) by fluorescent tissue present somewhere in our bodies, since they have become visible. The nervous tissue certainly seems to be responsible for the emission of those far-reaching searchlight-like rays. Could they be a possible agent for thought-transmission ?

Human tissues, other than the nervous tissue, certainly are to some extent fluorescent, that is, able to render ultra-violet rays visible to certain eyes ; for example, the skin, parts of the eye and the blood—the cornea of the eye fluoresces a blue colour with us and other colours in animals, depending on the species. Hard tissue shows up better than soft does, and bits of scurf are particularly fluorescent, which is odd, because dead tissue does not show up at all. White skins fluoresce better than those of coloured people. Golden—and grey—hairs show up better than do dark ones.

Tendons, ligaments and bones fluoresce, provided that strong artificial ultra-violet rays are used ; natural solar ultra-violet " light " is of much too weak intensity to be of practical use for experimental purposes. Muscular tissue shows up but feebly.

These facts apply to animal tissue as well to human. Since our eyes are specially constructed with nerves that stand up to the bright light of day, it seems clear that the night-seeing eyes of animals should seek—and read—the aura more clearly and more easily than ours do. The wave-length of artificial mercury-vapour ultra-violet rays is very much shorter than the rays which appear as an aura around us. These are only just too short for the normal, unsensitized eye to pick up, but are well within the scope of many animals. When you see a pair of eyes peering at you at night in the bush, you can probably guess by their colour to what animal they belong. It is possible that the animal in question sees a great deal more of us, perhaps an informative haze around us.

I have found that most ordinary, healthy eyes can accumulate enough power to see these emanations after using a dicyanin screen for a bit. Younger people acquire sensitivity comparatively quickly, given the right climatic conditions—heights, and the farther from the equator the better.

While this is intended merely as a suggestion where human beings are concerned it seems to me to be perhaps more than a suggestion in relation to animals. Perhaps those who have made a study of telepathy may care to consider those long, searchlight rays (which appear to be fluoresced by nervous tissue) as being a possible agent for transmission of thoughts.

RADIOCHEMISTRY, RADIOBIOLOGY AND OLFACTION

BY BERNARD DURANTON

Translated from Industrie de la Parfumerie

Amongst different forms of energy are to be distinguished—

(1) Energy released by atomic disintegration.

It is recognised that matter is a form of condensed energy and that for the last two years it has been possible to transform one into the other.

(2) Chemical energy released in the course of reactions.

(3) Luminous energy from photons, minute but always present, since every object is necessarily at a certain temperature. It is this form of energy which now occupies our attention.

Activation of molecules

The molecules of every body not at absolute zero are subject to isothermal radiation due to temperature. They absorb energy from their surroundings in a discontinuous manner by quanta, and so arrive at their state of activation. The light waves which form this radiation are not absorbed equally by the molecules; in general, waves of activating light synchronise with the vibratory property of the atom or molecule. Molecular shocks have the same effect as activating energy.

The absorption of activating quanta can be effected in these three ways:—

(1) The displacement of an electron to a new orbit

(2) Inter-atomic vibration

(3) Molecular rotation

The molecule does not distinguish the mechanism of activation whether kinetic or luminous, nor, probably, that accompanying a loss of luminous energy.

Its state of vibration can be compared to an excited oscillator. If a synchronised oscillator happens to be near, the energy of which varies only by quanta there is a possibility of a transfer of activisation.

Radiochemistry

Certain theories of kinetic chemistry attribute to activisation a predominant role in the mechanism of reactions. For example : methane only begins to combine with hydrogen about 250°, but the mixture can be exploded by light. One must therefore admit that photons activate certain molecules and that the reaction is effected by complex chains which regenerate a part of the activated molecules.

This principle of reactions by chains is necessary for the interpretation of facts otherwise inexplicable : the influence of walls and dimensions of the container, positive and negative catalysis, influence of inert gases, &c. For example a 1/100,000 part of oxygen is sufficient to double the rate of decomposition of gaseous acetaldehyde.

General theories of so-called radiochemistry tend to show that all reactions are of a photochemical order : energy of activation deriving from a ray outside the system and, in certain cases, from isothermic radiation of the black body, which the system itself represents by virtue of its temperature.

Radiochemistry and Catalysis

It is remarkable that bodies which are rightly regarded as impurities play the chief part in certain reactions such as copper in luminescent sulphides. When a gelatine is demineralised its properties are entirely modified although the proteic chain is not attacked. In perfumery it is well known that too high a degree of purification of certain products takes away the whole of their scent. This role which is played by impurities is repeated in catalysis and gives us the clue to its interpretation.

It often happens that a body only acts as a catalyst when it contains traces of foreign elements. Thus, pure copper does not act catalytically in the hydrogenation of isopentane, but if it contains 2.5 per cent. of oxide of chromium the yield from the reaction can be as much as 96 per cent. To elucidate this problem, insoluble by previous theories, M. Buu Hoï (1) has recently suggested a new factor namely "the transfer of energy at a distance without loss." In the case of sulphide of zinc just quoted photons are emitted by the traces of copper. It is therefore clear that the energy received by the molecules of sulphide of zinc is transmitted intact to the luminous copper. As every molecule of the latter is surrounded by 10,000 atoms of zinc and sulphur, Buu Hoï considers that the transfer is made by resonance, direct from the emitting atom to the receiving atom, which are sometimes a considerable distance apart.

Today (March, 1946) we are enunciating a still bolder theory, postulating the existence of quanta of energy preserving certain

biological molecules in a state of permanent activation and so associating living matter with an undulatory condition.

This theory, to which we have given the name of "Radiobiology," is based on a group of explanations which are applicable to a whole series of problems otherwise insoluble: specificity of the biological action of elements and compounds, morphogenesis, phototropism, mitogenetic radiation.

Radiobiology particularly favours a new theory of olfacation and it is by way of introduction to a discussion of the latter theory that we have written the foregoing lies.

Classic Stoechiometry does not explain biological processes

If the energetic balance of organic syntheses and degradations obeys the laws of thermodynamics, by contrast, we are ignorant of almost all the *processes* by which living matter undergoes its transformations. It would even seem that the development of atomic theories emphasised the invalidity of these theories to explain the biological role of the elements, in particular that of Fe, Cu, Br, Cl, I. Graphs and tables of which the best known is that of Mendeleev, portraying the periodicity of the properties of the elements, the electronic trains, energies of ionisation, parachors, &c., show no analogy with the biological actions of the bodies.

Similarly one knows of no constant relation between the stereochemical structure of a compound and its power of stimulating taste or scent. Molecules chemically akin have different odours, and inversely compounds as dissimilar as hydrocyanic acid and benzaldehyde have odours which are much alike.

Though it is possible for a biochemist to foresee the balance of a reaction, it is generally difficult for him to indicate the steps by which it takes place. The qualitative side of the phenomena is liable to escape stoechiometric methods. They cannot explain why, in certain cases, elements assemble themselves in accordance with certain preferred dispositions, nor foresee the influence which these structures will have on the final evolution of the system.

Further, we hold that the essence of a biological phenomenon is not in the *balance of reaction* but in the *evolutionary processes* which determine it. Similarly the biological properties of elements are not apparent in their spatial organisation but are revealed by the *kinetic phenomena in which they are engaged and the evolution of which they control.*

Introduction for a truly biological theory of physics

At every age, morphologists have insisted on the existence in nature of a large number of living entities the shapes of which

are geometrically very simple and of numerous natural figures which correspond in a remarkable manner to physical fields of force.

Particularly have we remarked the close association of form with life and, still more, the bond which unites harmony of form with health. Degenerates are essentially inharmonic and a single look can inform us on purity of race and individual dynamism.

Where chemistry is no guide, the introduction of this new dimension of form admits of extremely instructive observations.

In the vegetable domain, for example, a relation between importance of solar irradiation and richness of form and colour can be noted. On the other hand, the debility and poverty of form are remarked in plants which grow in the dark. (Thallophytes).

These observations have led us to distinguish two fundamental groups of biological reactions :

(1) Synthetic processes, involving fixation of energy, resulting generally in forms both rich and various and, frequently, in odorous products.

(2) Exothermic processes of degradation leading to amorphous and generally malodorous products.

We usually find that putrefaction is accompanied by bad odours and we would indeed be surprised if a dunghill had the scent of roses ! However, *no law* would justify such a feeling ; it is nevertheless based on a common observation which justifies our thesis.

This phenomenology meets every test of biognosis because its foundation is sensory. The sensations of form, colour and scent are eminently biologic and for that reason they constitute the best foundation for study.

This classification of phenomena shows us then that every theory of olfacation must explain this *basic* fact that products resulting from the degradation of alimentary matter generally give off a particularly repulsive smell quite independently of the diversity of their molecular structure.

The preceding observations imply the following consequences :

(1) The complexity of molecules and the growth of their energetic potential are factors which are favourable, if not indispensable, to agreeable sensations.

A final reasoning leads us to the same conclusion : since the animal satisfies its energetic needs by calories liberated through the breaking up of complex molecules, the function of its senses must be to guide it to the most useful choice.

(2) The very general property possessed by alimentary matter of giving off disagreeable odours under disintegration is *fundamental* to the theory of olfaction.

Along with taste and odour, colour offers another road for our investigations. We think it most remarkable that no food of a *blue* colour is known to man. On the other hand, the colour green, so common in the vegetable world, is rarely found in flowers; artists do not paint green flowers even in imagination, and we can safely say that in a flower this colour is incompatible with beauty.

We will now show how these facts can be interpreted by the theory of radiobiology.

Radiobiology

By deduction from existing data of chemical kinetics the evolutionary processes of energy in the heart of vegetable and animal matter can be envisaged.

Solar radiation and the reactions which accompany cellular metabolism constitute for endogenic molecules sources of quanta the energy of which can be as much as 160,000 cal./gr. The molecules which absorb these radiations selectively are thus brought to a state of activation corresponding to the quantum of fixed energy. The frequency which is activating for a particular molecule is determined by the stereochemical structure and by the presence at the heart of the molecule of certain costituent groups.

The quanta are then absorbed *electively* by components the carbonic chain of which synchronises with the frequency of the luminous wave.

In a proteic system, for example, the molecule can be likened to an oscillator the energy of which can be transmitted by induction to every *similar* or *isochronous* molecule which is sufficiently close. This transfer implies an equal distribution of energy in the proteic system and the possibility of influx associating a remarkable selectivity with a plurality of inductions.

On the other hand the complexity of certain structures enables the fixation of n quanta to the same chain and their simultaneous release is a single quantum of energy n times as great : a fact demonstrated experimentally by Audubert by means of his photon-counters (3).

Radiobiology, Physiology and Olfaction

Our thesis allots to physiology a new theory of nervous influx, based on transfers of energy at a distance between similar or isochronous molecules. By it can be foreseen as many simultaneous inductions as there are individual bodies in the nerve fibre and their transmission with a remarkable degree of selectivity.

In passing, note that it admits a vibratory interpretation of memory : the corresponding registration of the release of a

vibration, lasting even beyond cellular renovation, memory being comparable to the resonance of synchronisation.

When applied to the phenomena of olfaction on which it is partly founded, our theory leads us to suppose that odorous bodies induce in the mucus vibrations which spread from them in the nerve fibres. It can be seen that this theory combines previous physical theories, notably the two most recent, namely those of G. M. Dyson (4) and of Heyninx (5).

These authors attribute the olfactive stimulus of the odorous molecules to the vibratory properties observable by the Raman spectrum and by the absorption of ultra violet and infra red rays. An objection to these theories is that the sensory stimulus would necessitate the emission of a wave and consequently the previous activation of the molecule: the same critics say that as the activation can have only a luminous origin and be of extremely short duration, it could not in any case last the fraction of a second required for the attraction of the particle up to the turbinated bones of the nose.

It is obvious that the discussion has its origin in the ambiguous definition of "activation." If the bringing about of certain reactions, such as that of methane and hydrogen quoted above, requires photons of high energy, it is nevertheless true, as J. Perrin has clearly shown, that a molecule is always in a state of activation in that it is necessarily at a certain temperature.

Radiobiology, based as it is on this normal condition of activation, admits of an olfactive stimulus which does not require any previous increase of the energetic level, and, also, one of the following processes:

(*a*) Induced resonance in the mucus maintained by cellular oxidations in a permanently elevated condition of activation.

(*b*) The energy of influx can derive from photons released by the action of oxygen of the air on certain constituents of the plasma. (All oxidations are generally due to photons).

(*c*) The energy can derive from the condensation of the compound on the mucus membranes: this phenomenon being, from the thermodynamic point of view, a degradation.

It has been objected that physical theories do not explain the role of impurities. Let us then remember that the explanation we offer is drawn precisely from such phenomena. Olfaction works through a mechanism which is strictly analagous; the promoter of catalysis becoming the promoter of odour.

Olfaction and Objectivity

Our thesis implies the objectivity of taste and scent. If one tried to escape this principle by saying that the agreeable or disagreeable nature of a compound is subjective and depends on conditioned reflexes, one would none the less be faced by the biological objectivity.

This reasoning is well illustrated by the difference between taste and smell : the first only allows us to appreciate something we have, whilst the second guides an animal to its food. One serves for tasting only, whilst the other is used mainly for search and recognition.

The stimulus of taste must be linked not only to the energetic contents of the molecule, but to the possibility of its release by the action of salivary ferment.

So far as scent is concerned, it might be objected that it is not necessary that the perfume of the rose should be agreeable to man. It is nevertheless true, in this case, that the sensation of pleasure is confined to the sense of smell : taste in no way participates in this sensation.

Conclusion

(1) Radiobiology, founded on the permanent activation of molecules and on the increase of its intensity in biological mediums, confirms existing theories of olfaction.

It states with precision that sensory excitation can have its energetic origin in photons yielded by the molecule or products resulting from the action of the oxygen of the air.

Qualitatively the phenomenon is governed by the frequency and, in some degree, by the structure of the molecule. It is therefore natural that certain relationships between odour and colour or the other phenomena due to the absorption or emission of photons should be observed, but this analogy does not imply an absolute correspondence.

The theory fits in with the classical phenomena of olfaction and has the advantage of explaining the role of impurities.

(2) The theory postulates that the study of olfaction necessitates the consideration of the objective character of this function.

(3) In so far as the sense of smell is not justified by biological necessity, it is related to the aesthetic and takes its place by the side of music and the arts founded on harmony. And this well conforms to the vibratory character attributed to it by modern theories.

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THE DEATH SPOT AT KILOMETRE 7.5

BY A. WREDE

Translated from Hannoversde Presse, *October*, 1948

Kilometre stone 7.5 on the national road 75 from Hamburg to Bremen has an evil reputation. Among car drivers it is known as " the death spot of Tostedt." One day an English captain was killed here on the spot, after collision with a tree, without apparent reason on the perfectly straight asphalted road. Since then reports have come in one after the other without cessation : dozens of accidents must have happened at the same place, and this seemed a mystery as there was a clear view of the road which was without any irregularities.

August Wrede, head of the police in Lüneberg, knows the secret. These disasters are no mystery to him. For some time he was stationed at Tostedt, and he then took it upon himself to study this problem. He has no doubt whatever that strong subterranean magnetic forces are at work there, which he calls " death rays." August Wrede has occupied himself for 27 years with the problem of the diviner's rod. He can bring forward a whole range of documents, officially confirmed, which certify that his indications of underground water are invariably accurate. He has pointed out spots for digging wells not only for numerous farmsteads but for a number of waterworks as well. At the Tostedt death spot his rod reacted so strongly that he could hardly hold it in his hand. " If in a moment of weakness," said he, " a driver should not hold the steering wheel firmly here, then death awaits him." Wrede is also convinced that people who regularly sleep in a bed under which there runs a concealed stream of water, may be liable to severe illness, notably cancer.

The little village of Tostedt lies close to the crossing of national roads 3 and 75. At the spot where the accidents occur the road surface is in first class condition, without potholes to which the accidents could be ascribed. But in Wrede's opinion the line of a stream crosses here from South to North. On one occasion a few police officers and journalists and the local government surveyor accompanied Wrede to Tostedt for personal observation of the enchanted spot. The results of their investigations were convincing, almost sensational. The company debated whether the driver or the vehicle was influenced by the " death rays " from the underground stream. Wrede was of the opinion that it was the driver. To put this to the proof it was finally decided to run a car slowly over the death spot, without the driver steering. The government surveyor and a police officer sat in the car. To everyone's stupefaction the car swerved from its line and ran

towards the line of trees at the side of the road at the exact spot where Wrede had made a mark eight metres in breadth. This experiment was several times repeated with others sitting in the car, and still the same thing happened ; the car deviated from its course at the suspected spot and ran in the direction of the suspected stream, not only approximately but within a hair's breadth of the " bank of the stream " and it did this nowhere else than at this spot.

August Wrede won then, but he could not convince his brother policemen. As was their duty as bureaucrats they drew up formal proceedings, and made a weak case for Wrede. That is to say they proved that the accidents which were reported in the past year on highway 75 were fairly evenly distributed along the whole stretch. Their reports showed five accidents in a north-easterly direction from Tostedt, and for all of these the police could find quite natural causes : " Swerves due to skids on wet roads, " " Skids in snow," " collisions." The only case remaining was the fatal accident of the English captain. This actually happened in the line of the water stream at kilometre 7.5. But, say the police, although a cause cannot be assigned, this does not shut out the possibility of natural causes. It is, however, too soon to conclude that the accident was caused by the influence of rays.

The death spot of Tostedt is not the only one in Germany. There are others, for example, the well-known kilometre stone 23.9 on the road from Bremen to Bremerhaven, which was publicised on the occasion of an accident to Olfer, the President of the Landtag of Lower Saxony. In three years nineteen cars and seven motor bicycle accidents have occurred there. It has been considered whether warning notices should be placed at these and like spots, but the police cannot make up their minds about this, as they think that too many notices will dull the wits. But the spot at Tostedt will come to notice in future, and the causes of accidents happening there will be submitted to an especially critical examination. However, the police cannot decide the question. Only exact scientific investigations on a wide basis may be able to give results which would be of practical importance.

RADIESTHESIA AND INTUITION

BY HENRY DE FRANCE

The whole of Radiesthesia is based on the hypothesis that unconscious movements transmitted to the rod or pendulum obey the thoughts of the dowser and that thought has two aspects, one resulting from the exercise of reason and from knowledge acquired through the medium of the senses, the other resulting from intuitive knowledge, immediate and unconscious, and either sensory or extra-sensory in origin.

Intuition is used systematically by dowsers, but many of them are not aware of the important part played by their thoughts because they have involuntarily made a mental convention with themselves in assuming that a movement unconsciously imparted to the rod or pendulum corresponds to the indication desired.

This convention induces a kind of mental disconnection (*débrayage*) or division facilitating the manifestation of intuitive concepts which the unconscious movements of the dowser obey.

The power of mental convention in Radiesthesia explains the diversity of methods in use and impels the dowser to use the most simple.

In short Radiesthesia is the art of discovering something outside the scope of ordinary senses and entails a procedure by which certain unconscious and conventional movements imparted to the rod or pendulum in obedience to intuitive concepts correspond to the desired indication.

We can suppose that a stimulus of electromagnetic or radioactive origin evokes an intuitive concept which dictates the dowser's movements. A very probable case of this is the discovery of cavities and faults in the soil, the seat of an ascertainable radioactivity.

It is then possible to associate mental convention with a physical stimulus which will evoke the intuitive concepts of the radiothetist. This impression is more easily aroused by mental orientation, which, according to Emile Christophe, is the will to perceive the physical influence of the object of our search. This purposeful "will" increases the sensibility and renders selection possible.

The frequency of successful results in the prospection of water-bearing fissures, the existence of which is often obvious from cracks in buildings above them, can only be explained by some form of perception. On the other hand, successes obtained in prospection on maps can only be explained by extra-sensory intuition, knowledge obtained direct from an all-knowing mind.

One must beware of "reasoned" imagination, a frequent cause of error. The radiesthetist should always mistrust an indication which confirms a preconceived opinion and is often wrong. He must also reckon with the possibility of transmission of thought whether voluntary or involuntary.

Finally, in certain cases the operator can obtain radiesthetic knowledge through forgotten subsconscious impressions, even though acquired unwittingly. For instance, things we have learnt in our childhood, faces and scenes we have known and forgotten. These impressions can be brought to the level of consciousness by the mental disconnection caused by the radiesthetic convention.

The following are two effective methods of observing the unconscious movements which characterise radiesthetic search.

(1) The unstable equilibrium of a forked rod with its two resilient branches ready, under the pressure of the fingers, to dip or rise at the smallest unconscious movement.

(2) Gyratory movements of a pendulum following an oscillating movement intentionally imparted by the operator, for in this way gyration occurs more quickly than when the pendulum is at rest.

The operator should have a good knowledge of the science to which Radiesthesia is being applied so that his intuitive thoughts may take shape and admit of correct interpretation. But the problem to be solved should be put in its simplest form in order to prevent the exercise of reason which by encouraging the formation of an often wrong idea prevents the process of intuition.

To achieve success the Radiesthetist should first form as exact a mental image as possible of the object of his search ; he should then adopt an appropriate mental convention for bringing about the mental disconnection which will facilitate the manifestation of his intuitive thought. Finally, the movement unconsciously imparted to the rod or pendulum will obey the thought corresponding to the indication desired. If this thought is intuitive, it will be in direct connection with the object of search.

NOTES AND NEWS

The Scientific and Technical Congress of Radionics and Radiesthesia which took place in London on May 16th, 17th and 18th was a great success. It is hoped that the Proceedings will be published in the autumn.

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A long article entitled "Water Diviner's Challenge," by Dennis Holman, appeared in *John Bull* of April 29th. It consisted mainly of an account of Major C. A. Pogson's exceptional career in India and of his opinions on so-called tests. A photograph of Major Pogson using a motorscope accompanied the article.

* * * * *

An article by Colonel K. W. Merrylees containing valuable advice on dowsing for water in East Africa was published in *East African Field, Farm and Garden* early this year. His comments on the correct attitude of the dowser toward his client are particularly noteworthy, e.g., "No dowser who has any faith in his own powers should ever object to siting wells on a no-water no-pay basis—or better still on an insufficient-water no-pay agreement."

* * * * *

Interesting references to water divining occur in Marion's book *In My Mind's Eye.* He found water in Albania on many occasions for troops of the Austrian army during the first World War by dowsing in the field, and he must have been one of the earliest operators in the psychic method of dowsing on maps.

* * * * *

Four South African papers, the *Cape Argus* and *Johannesburg Star* of April 22nd, and the *Sunday Tribune* (Durban) and *Bulawayo Sunday News* of April 23rd, contain short articles about the B.S.D.

* * * * *

Bon-Accord (Aberdeen) of May 11th contained four pictures of Mr. John Copeland Milne, an Alford farmer, using a wooden divining rod with the old-fashioned grip. He is said to have practised dowsing for 30 years and to have successfully located water, metal and human bodies, and to be well known as a dowser in the North-East of Scotland, Speyside, Angus and Skye.

An article in the *Guernsey Weekly Press* of May 17th refers to Mr. Clifford de G. Robin, of Sous l'Église, St. Saviour. He is described as an "accomplished and proven water diviner." Being a tomato-grower by profession, he used his powers to good effect in the drought last year. He now works over a map before proceeding to the site.

* * * * *

The *Farmers' Weekly* (Bloemfontein) of May 17th records that the 11-year-old son of Mr. H. J. Viljoen claims to be able to *hear* underground water. He has traced many underground streams and wherever drilling was undertaken, water was found. He is, however, unable to tell the depth.

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A short note in *Corriere del Ticino* of June 9th records how Signor Gumpertz (B.S.D.) located the position of a missing 24-year-old girl on a map and how she was subsequently rescued.

* * * * *

According to the *Halifax Courier and Guardian* of June 13th, Mr. J. Quain (B.S.D.) was congratulated by the Duke of Argyll on a lecture he gave on "Water Divining" to the Brighouse Naturalists' Society. It is stated that Mr. Quain has been selected by the Duke to assist him in a hunt for treasure at Southport.

* * * * *

Several papers, notably the *Dundee Evening Telegraph* of June 9th described how Mr. John Milne, the 69-year-old water diviner, mentioned above, tried to trace a missing youth, Alastair Edwards, using articles of clothing as "samples." Indications led him to a peat bog where there were a number of wide and deep holes covered with water. A six-hour search produced no result. Mr. Milne had previously been successful in similar searches.

* * * * *

The following is an extract from *History of the Royal Society*, Vol. I, 234, by Thomas Birch; May 6th, 1663 "The *Virgula divina* was tried but by unlucky hands. It was ordered to be tried again with shoots of one year's growth . . . after Gabriel Platt's method, tying the end of the hazel to a staff in the middle with a strong thread so that it hang even, like the beam of a balance."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Westways,
Oxford Road,
Banbury.
May 12th, 1950.

Dear Sir,

Is there any known reason why hazel should be looked upon as the most suitable wood for "twigs"?

In his *History and Origin of Druidism* Mr. Lewis Spence quotes the Oak, Apple, Rowan and Hazel as being held in veneration by the Druids, the last named being described as "indeed a god."

The Druids appear to have been diviners, but more in the sense of soothsayers, or perhaps witch-doctors, than in that of dowsing, but if they did practise that art they would soon discover that of their four sacred trees the hazel is by far the best one from which twigs can be cut, which may have accounted for its popularity.

Yours faithfully,

R. HUNTRISS

Moulsham Mill House,
Chelmsford, Essex.
June 16th, 1950.

Dear Colonel Bell,

Monsieur L. Turenne holds the position of being not only an engineer and an accepted leader of physical radiesthetists to-day but also someone who can claim to have located water thousands of times by radiesthesia; and so I thought that B.S.D. Members would care to read a translation of his comment upon my mention of the use of Geiger counters as part of the technique employed for finding underground streams and checking up the dowsing indications:

"I note that the authorities in England are as slow as in France in taking an interest in the search for water and minerals below ground by radiesthesia, on the spot and by map-reading. I think there will be a change in a few years' time in view of our regular successes. I myself claim publicly to 95 per cent. of success in dowsing but my real percentage is certainly higher.

During the last 50 years I have dowsed in France, in her Colonies and abroad, as a preliminary to selling my pumping equipment, and I have in this way sold 8,000 pumping sets.

"The Geiger counter for controlling radiesthesia is in its debut stage; let us go slow in its use in order first of all to establish exact statistics and then to note the circumstances in which the Geiger will either succeed or only confuse the issue. Regarding water where the streams are far apart one should be able to obtain a selection of the telluric waves concerned; but for minerals and particularly in Morocco where three and sometimes four closely allied sorts lie side by side or one upon the other, a way must be found for separating clearly the telluric waves of each. In radiesthesia the means for this has been found.

"The information you have given me about the official work in dowsing undertaken by Major Pogson and Mrs. Millen, at Bombay and Ceylon is of great value. As soon as there are a dozen people with references like that there will be a general recognition of this Science which even now is making great strides."

Yours sincerely,

NOEL MACBETH

COOMBEBURY,
GRANGE ROAD, CATERHAM.
4th August, 1950.

Dear Colonel Bell,

I agree with Colonel Merrylees's fundamental criticism of the electromagnetic wave as the primary cause of dowsing phenomena, but would suggest that it is unwise to limit the sensitivity of the body while the mechanism of stimulation is so much in doubt.

It is my opinion that distortions of the earth's magnetic field are not so completely suppressed by local man-made fields as he supposes. Indeed, the fluctuations measured by a magnetometer would seem to be similar in extent to the disturbances common to the dowser in and near buildings, where the main features of the field may well be due to steel pipes, ferro-concrete, &c.; but in open country the variations are mostly due to the distribution of magnetite. It is worth while to point out that most substances have an appreciable magnetic susceptibility, and modify the field to some extent.

When he states that dowsers perceive changes in the underground mass density, Colonel Merrylees begs the question of

gravitation as the primary cause. There is one serious objection to this theory, namely, that a dowser, walking at 2 paces per second, and contriving to move up and down a mere 6 mm., imparts to his body an acceleration of about 10 per cent. of that due to gravity, producing the same effect as if he stood still and the earth's mass alternated by 10 per cent.—a geological disturbance which would be difficult to compensate, though this cannot be ruled out.

With regard to the sense of the blind man, has it not been shown that this is an example of skilful analysis of sound reflections ?

In the realm of geophysics, the dowser should have some very formidable instrumental competition from, for example, an airborne magnetometer sensitive to changes in the earth's field of 1 part in 2,000, and gravimeters capable of measuring the earth's attraction to 1 part in 100,000,000, while a form of low-frequency radar is used for locating underground discontinuities.

Notwithstanding the somewhat destructive nature of my criticism, I wholeheartedly approve of the open-minded spirit of Colonel Merrylees's letter, and the serious investigator will realise that any statement of fact may be justified or found wanting by the exercise of thought and enquiry, and that new ideas may overrule old objections. The chief factors which appal the scientist are the apparently incorrigible confusion of thought and the dogmatism which seem to afflict dowsers.

Is it not time that the Society embarked on some form of stock-taking, preceded by an orgy of competitive reasoning in the *Journal*, in which all Members interested in a physical explanation could indulge ? Proposals for experiments, empirical laws and theories might be submitted to some selected body for judgment on their scientific merits, and appropriate action taken.

The Society contains some of the best investigators equipped with full experience of dowsing, of whom many have shown it to be their aim to eschew the psychic, and put dowsing on a theoretical basis, on which it may withstand the rigours of the scientific method. Until substantial progress is made in this direction, dowsing will be generally considered as a psychic phenomenon, amenable only to statistical analysis.

Yours sincerely,

R. V. HARVEY

REVIEWS

REVUE INTERNATIONALE DE RADIESTHÉSIE, No. 18

Les Expériences de la R.I.R.—This article consists of comments on the fundamental experiment proposed by Dr. Jarricot in No. 17, by Domenico Corpi, an engineer of Stambul, and A. Romain, followed by Dr. Jarricot's observations.

Radiesthésie et Transmission de Pensée, by Paul Serres. He considers that transmission of thought is amongst the causes of error in radiesthetic experiments, and gives the following example:

Tell someone who is alone with you in a room to select mentally an object in it and to look at you fixedly for several seconds whilst thinking of the object. Then with pendulum in one hand, rapidly explore the room with the other held antenna-wise. As soon as it points in the direction of the object the pendulum will react.

Dowsers are liable to be affected by the fixed idea of someone in their presence and they should be on their guard against this, especially when dealing with the sick. It is better, therefore, to work in privacy over a human product such as a blood spot. The effect of transmission of thought is often observed in the course of tests where the will for failure on the part of the controller constitutes a disturbing psychic factor. The receptivity of domestic animals to human thought is well known.

Action Physique sur La Matière sans Contact.—M. de Gall gives a brief account of Dr. Rhine's famous experiments at Duke University, North Carolina, and then describes an apparatus by which observations of psycho-kinetic force can be obtained in an entirely different manner. The apparatus consists essentially of a small reservoir supported on a frame firmly fixed to a platform. The reservoir ends in a tube for forming drops, and vertically below it is a knife-edge, capable of exact adjustment as regards position, with a small trough on either side. The liquid in the reservoir is semi fluid oil forming drops of regular size. The drops are cut by the knife edge so that a portion of each drop falls into either trough. After a number of drops has fallen, the quantity in each trough is weighed. By means of a thumbscrew the knife edge is then shifted through a succession of minute intervals, first, to one side and then to the other. The result in the shape of a fraction giving the proportion of the weights in the two troughs is recorded at each position and plotted on a graph. A subject then places himself facing the apparatus and concentrates on attracting the drops towards himself, observations being taken of the quantity of the liquid in each trough when the knife edge is in the same positions as before. By a comparison of these results with the results previously obtained the strength of the psycho-kinetic force exerted by the subject can be estimated. This apparatus was designed by an engineer, M. G. Chevalier, and in 1949 he was granted the prize of 20,000 francs. founded by Vicomte B. de Cressac-Bachelerie, President of the A.F.E.M. (l'Association Française ed'Etudes Métapsychiques), 8 Rue Rougemont, Paris IX, from which detailed information can be obtained.

Fabrication des Témoins Artificiels, by Lieut. Colonel Stevelinck. Starting with the generalisation that "everything in Nature is magnetisation," he describes how samples can be constructed artificially by

placing a tube of inert matter such as flour or white sand, inside the north end of a solenoid orientated N.-S., with an original sample, for example a culture of Staphylococcus, in the south end, and passing a current through the solenoid for forty-eight hours.

Réactions du Pendule sur une Onde électro-magnetique polarisée, by P. de Bondy. The author states that the direction of gyration of a pendulum depends not only on the polarity of the electromagnetic wave but also on the position of the pendulum in respect to the orthogonal plane of the waves.

[This conclusion appears to assume that dowsers can carry out observations over an infinitely thin beam of radiation, as he refers to the opposite movements of gyration according to the position of pendulum above and below the beam.]

No. 19

Deux Ans de Recherches communes avec Stanislas Bignand.—This is an article by Georges Carrère in memory of his friend, Stanislas Bignand, in which he gives a brief account of their two years' collaboration. Though at first sceptical he was converted by the results obtained with the instrument described by M. Doladilhe in an article in *B.S.D.J.* 68. Early experiments included those on dwarf haricot beans, the fecundity of which was greatly increased when they had been immersed for ten minutes in activated water. Other successful experiments were carried out on potatoes and sunflowers. At the Agricultural Exhibition at Ath in 1948 there was a stand devoted to the remarkable products obtained by this method. An example is quoted of a dying cyclamen which was revived in an extraordinary manner by a colloidal solution of glucose—the origin of a series of similar treatments applied to other trees such as walnut, chestnut, cherry, apple and to vines. The author ends with an exhortation to Bignand's numerous friends to continue these agricultural experiments.

Problème Radiesthésique, by Maurice Le Gall. A study of the planes of oscillation of the pendulum over different metals. Having placed a piece of gold on a sheet of paper and marked an initial line corresponding to the plane of oscillation of a pendulum over the gold, he drew other lines showing the planes of oscillation of various metals. In this way a "Rose of Metals" was obtained which revealed the surprising fact that the angular distances of the various lines corresponded, with a few exceptions, to the atomic weights of the corresponding metals (a result closely resembling that of Maby's analysis of the Fundamental Ray).

The author says that he knows the head of a laboratory who uses the Rose of Metals to find out, almost to the second place of decimals, the composition of an alloy. Brass, for instance, gives a direction between the lines for copper and zinc, the angles revealing the relative proportions of the two metals. But as the principle holds good even when the directions are incorrectly marked, a more convenient method consists in using what the author calls a "universal dial." that is, a sector of a circle of 120°, marked from 0 to 100. A needle held in the left hand is drawn along the arc whist a pendulum in the right hand indicates by gyration the point on the arc representing the unknown proportion.

The operation, in origin of a strictly physical nature, thus assumes a general character and can be applied to solve any problems involving measurement, such as the depth of water, the age of an animal, amount of arterial tension, &c.

Précision de l' Avenir et Radiesthésie (a translation), by V. Brizzi-Peretti. The theme of this article is the power of the human psyche to traverse space-time and give instantaneous visibility to impressions of the past, present and future.

Études des Mouvements du Pendule. A very detailed analysis of the movements of the pendulum by Comte Jean Catta.

A.H.B.

RADIESTHÉSIE POUR TOUS

May, 1950

p. 131. In discussing the intuition of dogs, J. Martial tells the story of a spaniel belonging to a British fighter pilot who used to sleep in the dressing room of the aerodrome when his master went into the air. One day the pilot went off on a mission over France. The dog, as was his custom, was stretched out quite happily in the dressing room with his head between his paws. Suddenly he got up briskly and dashed like an arrow through the open door. An hour later news was brought that an airman's parachute had been seen in a nearby wood. A rescue party was despatched and was astonished to find the pilot lying by his parachute with his dog licking his face. Something had gone wrong in the air, and the pilot had parachuted himself from the plane and broken his leg. The author mentions how police dogs can trace lost persons, and observes that he has been told several times that if you stop a dog while he is scenting a trail and give him a pice of poultry or game, he will have to be brought back to the starting point in order to pick up the trail again. He asks if this is true ! At the same time he thinks it difficult to suppose that the animal succeeds in finding again a particular scent where people, animals, motor-cars and divers vehicles are passing incessantly. Whatever the explanation, the author thinks that the operative process in the case of the dog is quite different according to whether the search is made on the spot or through detection at a distance. Some may perhaps be tempted to say : That proves that radiesthesia and teleradiesthesia are two totally different things. But what do we know ? Science and research may eventually supply an answer.

p. 133. The court announcement acquitting M. Henri Meier, the well-known radiesthetist of Esch-Alzette, Luxembourg, of improper practices in connection with his art, is reproduced. M. Meier has been consulted on numerous occasions about people who have disappeared, about displaced persons and prisoners, which led to his being summoned for charlatinism, divination and swindling. Evidence was not forthcoming that the defendant had offended the penal code by making an habitual practice of divination, i.e., by way of a profession or in return for a salary, and also complete proof was not produced that the incriminating action of divination did not constitute a science ; it appears rather (the court said) to be a branch of science partially unknown, partially unrecognized, called radiesthesia, which is essentially different from divination as legally forbidden. After examining the evidence put at its disposal, the court came to the conclusion that it could not condemn a person utilising a branch of science, as was employed by serious men of science such as the Abbé Mermet, and which is absolutely different from divination as forbidden by law, appearing to be on the contrary essentially in the nature of such scientific phenomena as radar.

p. 135. F. Servranx writes of certain terrestrial and other currents which, he asserts, have been known far back by the Chinese and Egyptians. In all points of the globe there is a two-way current running North-South and South-North. Even if these currents appear to coincide with the lines of force of physical magnetism (and direct themselves to and from magnetic North and not geographical North), they are nevertheless very different. The flux proceeding from North to South syntonises in an absolute manner with "vital magnetism," which is found everywhere in nature. It is, properly speaking, the "breath of life." It exists also in variable quantities in minerals. The flux from South to North is another form of life, but it is, properly speaking, "vital energy," absent in dead bodies, in substances not animated by life. It exists in all living organisms, in crystals, in radioactive substances and in certain chemical compositions. M. Servranx goes on to explain the nature of these currents. It will be found that people sleep badly with their head to the South. The vital energy which one receives from the South affects first the head and the brain, and passes through the body exciting the lungs and the heart. The force from the North, which enters via the feet, is progressively naturalised in its course. The brain is active, respiration is short and rapid and the heart beats more quickly, resulting in illness and oppression and, if one remains in this position, cramp in the legs or stomach is experienced. One sleeps best with the head to the North, feet to the South. The vital magnetic flux then charges the system from the head downwards, producing calm, sleep, relaxation. The force from the South, which enters through the feet, quickens the circulation in the lower limbs and then the base of the trunk before being neutralised. One rests, one's legs lose their fatigue—one sleeps! If you place on a central support a wooden rule lying in a North-South direction so that you can tip either end of the rule slightly downwards, it is possible for you to charge a glass of water with "vital magnetism." This is accomplished by tilting the south end down and placing the glass of water immediately under it. It will take about three hours to saturate the water, which will be found to have a soothing and refreshing effect. With the glass of water placed under the north end (slightly tilted downwards), it will become charged with vital force and will have an exciting tonic effect, but at the same time often enervating and irritating. If, with whatever orientation, you place a glass of water opposite one of the poles of a powerful bar magnet, opposite the north end it will acquire an exciting effect while opposite the south end it will acquire a soothing, calming effect. The effects are obviously more noticeable in persons who are normally sensitive, but no one can altogether escape them. The author goes on to discuss the two-way current running with an East-West orientation. The East-West current is one of disintegration, which acts on minerals and organisms and sets free their energies. The opposite West-East current is as yet little known, but it appears to have a mineralizing effect. It acts on the soil, on bodies in the process of crystallization, and favours the fixation of mineral elements in living organisms. It opposes the East-West force of disintegration. Sensitive persons facing East will become irritable and enervated, while facing West they will acquire balance, and if they remain in this direction they will acquire a tendency to

torpor. A metal rod placed East-West, and with the east end slightly raised, will charge in three hours a glass of water placed under the south end. This water used in small doses (as chosen by pendulum) for watering plants will stimulate their vital processes; in too great quantities the water will produce increased growth, but will finally "burn up," or kill, the plants. Water charged with the opposite force does not favour growth but the "accumulation of substances," assimilation (growth of roots, tubers, stems, &c., all of which increase in size). In excess this water will produce engorgement and a noticeable decline in growth above-ground. If it is impossible for you to sleep head to North, you will sleep better head to East rather than head to West. It will not be as easy to sleep as with head to North, but meanwhile better than head to West. To measure the radiations of a person or animal, it is well known in radiesthesia that it is preferable to place the subject facing West (the Abrams technique is significant in this context). His field is then excited by the East-West current. Again, the line East-West is a witness of Death as against the North-South line being one of Life. Finally the author describes the two-way current, independent of cosmic radiation, Zenith-Earth, Earth-Zenith. The flux Zenith-Earth is spiritual and acts on the mental plane of all living beings. The Earth-Zenith flux (which is directed from the Earth to all surrounding space) is a planetary influence as recognised in astrological researches. Under the influence of the Zenith-Earth current a word witness, when left to itself, will (according to the article) become syntonised exactly with the body signified. The flux is sensitive to an idea and creates a physico-spiritual resonance between the word and the body it represents.

p. 141. Suggestions are made for radiesthetic tests to be made with rod or pendulum in the open air.

p. 143. Henri Souty recalls an article in the Parisian journal *La Croix* which gave a remarkable instance of the gift that one, Thérèse Neumann, has of recognizing sacred relics for what they are. She is apparently one of the very few who have exhibited stigmata, and she showed great religious fervour when presented with an envelope containing an piece of the Tunic of Argenteuil, although she was quite unmoved by a previous envelope containing a doubtful relic of the Cross.

p. 147. Continuing his articles on radiesthesia applied to agriculture, F. Servranx describes how the agriculturist comes across bad years when his crops are poor or a failure. Often these failures are inexplicable. In such cases one should think first of degeneration of the soil by acidification. If the pH index shows marked acidity, the general remedy is surely lime. But if not, there are six products which may be useful, viz., sulphur, charcoal, boric acid, copper sulphate, copper acetate and iron (in the form of water rust). Iodine is a seventh product, often useful, but it is expensive. The applications, chosen by pendulum, will always be small. Where iodine is indicated, kelp may be applied. Also laboratories, especially those abroad, are marketing certain products containing a base of vegetable hormones; these often restore the fertility of an exhausted soil.

p. 149. Pierre Bories recalls the work carried out by Father J. L. Bourdoux in Brazil, where he studied the indigenous plants used by the natives for medicinal purposes and cured himself of galloping

tuberculosis through their aid. Dr. Edouard Marty, a notable medical radiesthetist, who died in 1948, was a close friend of Father Bourdoux and he made free use of his herbal preparations, which consist of carefully selected combinations of plants.

p. 153. A. Vantillard discusses errors in radiesthetic prospection, which he puts down to a constant personal factor in the individual. If the individual can determine what his personal coefficient of error is, he will obtain accurate results. He also expatiates on whether radiesthesia and teleradiesthesia are one science or two.

p. 159. Two execises are given for the benefit of amateurs. First, there is a photograph of street paving—nothing more or less—and the beginner is asked to say in what town in Europe the photograph was taken. The second exercise shows a photograph of a valuable old Chinese vase which, some experts say, is 2,000 years old. With the assistance of an "equinoctial disc," however, the age of the vase is found radiesthetically to be 3,000 years old, a result which does not vary on repetition of tests.

JUNE

p. 163. Choosing your holidays. In addition to well-known climatic conditions such as temperature, humidity and height above sea level, there are other influences which will affect your stay when away on holiday, and it is suggested that you should check by radiesthesia whether the place you intend to visit will benefit you in health. From the radiesthetic point of view the place of your choice may maintain your present level of vitality, or it may excite or depress you. A diagram is reproduced by which you can find out your present state of health and the effect which the intended site will have on it. With this same diagram, it is stated, you can find the effect which soil, medicaments, apparatus for protection against noxious earth rays, &c., will have upon your health. The method is said to have a physical basis.

p. 167. Pierre Bories discusses radiesthesia and dynamism in medicine. He relates how on a Sunday in 1948, Father Bourdoux received a letter from a young father in Toulouse asking him to come immediately and see his 18 months old daughter, who was gravely ill. The father enclosed a lock of the child's hair. Dr. Edouard Marty was with Father Bourdoux at the time in Albi and it was obvious that something out to be done immediately—but what? Dr. Marty found the remedy by radiesthesia, but the post did not go out on Sundays. Father Bourdoux did not hesitate, but suggested at once that they should carry out an experiment. The lock of hair was laid on a piece of white paper and the remedy was placed on the hair. To radiate the effect of the medicine, he put his two hands above it and willed for 12 minutes that it should act at a distance on the dying child. It was eleven o'clock. He repeated this several times after breakfast. Towards 3.0 p.m. he telephoned the father, who told him that at about 11.30 his small daughter sat up, asked for her toys, and —what she had not done for several days—took her feeding bottle, and slept.

p. 171. In this article on finding water without rod or pendulum, J. Dejond recounts how animals have been found to have the power of detecting water underground. In India nanny-goats have been given salt and then left without water, and have then found places where underground streams flowed, and dug down to them. Dr.

Broon described in 1876 how a breed of monkey was used to find water in the South African desert. The animal was given something salty to eat and, after several hours, was allowed to run at the end of a long rope. Tormented by thirst, it would turn first to the right, then to the left, and finally start scratching where underground water was found to exist. Another case is that of a dog which would dig at places where there was water. But the article is mostly taken up with a description of the powers of a remarkable boy of six, who discovered underground water with his eyes. His family, of Dutch ancestry, the van Jaarsvelds, were farming at Burgersdorp, near Capetown. When young Piet demonstrated to his father his powers of water detection, his father asked him in astonishment if he had previously *seen* water, to which the boy replied: "Yes, I thought everybody could see it like me." A year later the boy could see not only underground water, but gold and minerals. The boy's powers increased year by year, but he often felt very tired, had headaches and was often ill. Now, at 18, he lives at Potchefstroom and has become a geological expert. Only five times out of 100 has he proved to be incorrect in his divinations. When there is underground water the boy explains that he sees a quantity of light escaping from the point which attracts him, which can be compared with the reflected light of the moon. In detecting diamonds he sees glistening white points of light suspended in the air. Gold, oil and coal give out similar emanations. He sees gold in the shape of thick mist, while oil has a darker colour and coal gives off an emanation lighter than the other two. Piet is now at the head of a business enterprise, Eureka Indication Ltd. When not at the high school and with the help of a light aeroplane, he covers South Africa from Capetown to Tanganyika. He charges 25 guineas for a prospection, which may last only 10 minutes. In gold, oil or coal prospections, Piet requires a contract giving him a share in the profits.

p. 174. F. Servranx describes how, with the aid of a circular chart, you can improve your fortune in life. The method involves finding out with the chart and a pendulum what are your mental or psychological weak points and correcting them, and determining how you may achieve your social ambitions.

p. 181. Henri Meier writes of the Laboratory of Parapsychology in the Duke University at Durham, North Carolina, U.S.A., and quotes American authorities on phenomena such as extra-sensory perception, teleradiesthesia, clairvoyance, telepathy, pre-cognition, psychokenesis, and so on.

p. 185. An article on infra-sonic waves given off by the human body and by the earth by Max Teicher, published in the May 9th, 1950, issue of the Belgian journal *La Dernière Heure*, in reproduced. It tells of the work carried out by Professor Hubert Rohracher, Director of the Psychological Institute of the University of Vienna. It was during researches on the electric currents of the brain, undertaken with very sensitive modern instruments, that this Viennese professor detected an oscillating movement which, contrary to electrical cerebral waves, was of a purely mechanical nature. He was astonished when he found the origin of this movement to be the human body and that it existed in all its parts. After innumerable experiments it was established that our bodies generate a mean of ten vibrations per second. As for the amplitude of these vibrations, it is not more than

a few thousandths of a millimetre. The vibrations of the body are transmitted to the air around us, to other persons and even to inert objects. It suffices to touch with the finger the end of a heavy beam resting on the backs of two chairs to make it resonate with the vibrations of the body. If this seems unlikely, nevertheless it can be proved by instruments. In the course of his researches over several years Professor Rohracher discovered another mysterious vibration with the same frequency as that of the body, but ten times less strong. It proceeds from the earth and is greater by day than by night; it is also stronger in wet or stormy weather. The seismographs of our geologists were not sufficiently sensitive to register it, but it has been detected with radiophonic instruments. It is suggested that the coincidence of the human and earth vibrations of the same frequency is not accidental, but the result of a long process of accommodation. Possibly it is due to these vibrations that blind persons can "feel" a distant object, the body acting as a "radar-emitter" of mechanical waves which are reflected back to the sender. From the point of view of physiology the professor draws particular attention to the fact that our muscles are subjected to vibrations of the same frequency, whether in a state of tension or relaxation. Possibly this rhythmic movement saves us a great expenditure of energy, for in the case of a nervous impulse, it is sufficient that our body should reinforce the vibration of the muscle fibres instead of putting them into action at the expense of considerable effort. In fact, it is suggested that these vibrations regulate the most delicate functions of our organism. Investigations are being carried out at the University of Vienna to examine the possibility of using the incidence of these vibrations for medical purposes.

p. 188. A simple method of using a disc, or protractor, is described for testing remedies.

JULY

p. 193. It is said that there are six double centres and one single one on the body surface of radiesthetic sensitivity. For instance, each temple (a double centre) is sensitive to mental orientations, for map dowsing, foretelling the future, and is associated with the emission of "mental waves," psychic assessment of dosage, depth, &c. The other sensitive centres are: Points on each side of the back of the head; points near the base of the thumb (approximately at the Bovis heart centres); points at the juncture of the shoulder and arm (i.e., just inside the shoulder on the anterior side); points just above the knee; and a single point or centre at stomach level (which appears from a diagram given to be just above the navel). It may be mentioned that the centres just inside the shoulders are brought into play (so it is stated) in underground prospection, water divining, prospection at a distance, and for medical researches (in conjunction with two of the other centres). It is not very clear how these centres are brought into active use, but they can apparently be stimulated by locating them with the free (non-pendulum) hand.

p. 195. A record of what took place during a discussion on amplifiers is reproduced. These amplifiers are employed for adding to the sensitivity of the operator, and in the discussion the term is also used to include those which amplify the "perceived wave," or the influence being dowsed for, i.e., witnesses or samples of the objects sought or providing resonance with them. Amongst the latter are

colours (single or combined), forms (metallic reliefs, drawings, or solids in three dimensions). Amplifiers for increasing the sensitivity of the operator include, so the article states, light, certain drugs (such as the homoeopathic tincture of Guaco), and metals or colours carried on the person. Other amplifiers give sensitivity to the operator and reinforce the effect of the witness at the same time, these including radioactive products (such as Turenne's "Radium") and electromagnetic fields (produced by apparatus such as Maury's).

p. 199. Radiesthetic exposure meters as used in photography. It is pointed out that a good deal of experience is required in using exposure meters. That is to say that one cannot automatically rely on their indications for best results but must use one's own judgment also in determining the filter, exposure and lens aperture required. On the other hand photo-electric cells have not up to the present the sensitivity of the human eye. A diagram is reproduced with which, it is claimed, accurate determinations can be made with the help of the pendulum as to settings of the camera before the photograph is taken, which take into account the speed of film and colour filters used. It would seem that mental orientation is implicit in the method advocated.

p. 203. Henri Souty recalls dowsing accomplishments of some of the renowned operators of the past, such as the finding of underground tombs and saying who had been buried in them. He tells the amusing story of how a country woman arrived one day with her small daughter at the presbytery of Hardelot. "What do you want, Madame?," asked Abbé Bouly. "Monsieur le Curé," she replied, "we have come to see you. My grandmother loved to tell how she had seen Napoleon. I want my small daughter to be able to say later on, 'I have seen Abbé Bouly.'"

p. 206. Pierre Bories writes of the hand as an indicator of health and of diagnosis made over it with the pendulum, denying that such practices are not reputable procedures.

p. 209. Henri Meier quotes an article in the December 18, 1949, issue of *Stuttgarter Illustriert* about a Dr. D., who has remarkable healing powers in his hands. He has practised medicine for 20 years in the Black Forest and two years ago discovered that he had a healing influence coming from his fingers. M. Meier found that this influence extended 2 metres from the left hand and 4 metres from the right, when it was still strong enough to turn his pendulum. This doctor examines all his patients with the pendulum as well as using ordinary clinical methods and X-rays. The pendulum indicates the state of health of the body when held over it by describing circles, ellipses and oscillations, and stops abruptly over diseased parts. The writer himself finds that his right hand has a healing magnetic positive force extending 40cm. beyond the fingers, while his pendulum gives negative gyrations beyond his left hand up to 36cm. So he concludes that Dr. D. possesses a magnetic force ten times more powerful than his own. The journal mentioned gives striking cases of healing by Dr. D. through his hands, including apoplexy, rheumatism, arthritis, arteriosclerosis, cramps and paralysis. One man, wounded in the 1914 war, was treated in vain up to 1918, and was unable to move either his arm or open his hand for 35 years. After two minutes Dr. D. brought back movement to the elbow of the paralysed arm without pain to the patient, who had said up to the last moment, "It cannot be done." It is interesting to

note that this doctor is in touch with university professors for the exchange of ideas. The medical correspondent of the journal, Dr. H.W., writes that the patient should collaborate with the doctor or healer, as otherwise the treatment will not be successful. (We should, however, add that this is not always true, although such collaboration is always desirable. In fact the case cited confirms our contention). He goes on to say that it is the divine spark in Man which heals. Each individual is in touch with the reservoir of cosmic energy which is capable of freeing us of the toxims which bring on our illnesses. If the harmony of the mind is affected by hate, jealousy, fear, anger, envy, &c., the current is cut off and is not able to prevent poisoning of our system. We can only regain healthy equilibrium if we put ourselves in touch with the divine forces of creation. Dr. D., he concludes, was the intermediary of these forces.

p. 211. "N.M.", British correspondent of R.P.T., reports on the Scientific and Technical Congress of Radionics and Radiesthesia, held in London on May 16th-18th.

p. 213. F. Servranx, in continuing his articles on radiesthesia in agriculture, writes that attempts have often been made to capture and canalise the electricity and other diverse energy from the atmosphere. One method is to plant at intervals of 5 metres metallic stakes connected to plates of about 60 x 60 cm. buried about 50 cm. deep in the ground, the stakes rising about 3 metres above the level of the soil. After putting in the first stake you can ascertain with your rod or pendulum that the soil within 4 metres of the stake is "RA" (i.e., radioactive, positive and negative, magnetic and electric). By placing all the stakes at intervals of 5 metres, all the surface of the soil is rendered RA, which should assist cultivation. The stakes and plates may be made of galvanised iron, copper or brass. Also it is frequently recommended that metallic horizontal antennae should be placed 3 metres apart in a North-South direction and supported on wooden posts 1.6 metres high. The antennae (or wires) should be connected at their northern extremities by a metallic conductor, which should be earthed by a metal plate buried in the ground. Other similar arrangements, it seems, have also been tried.

p. 217. An extract from *Ce Pendule Mystérieux*, by the late Claude Johnson, on hunting for lost objects or hidden treasure, is reproduced.

p. 221. Serial numbers and fundamental rays. By F. and W. Servranx. This article is taken from an instructional course entitled *Initiation à la Radiesthésie* of the Servranx Bureau, Brussels. For obtaining the serial number of a substance you are told that you should adjust your pendulum for it, meaning presumably that you should adjust the string length so that the pendulum gyrates continuously above it. Actually, we might interpolate, this adjustment is not necessary for some operators, but it may help in obtaining consistent results. Iron is given as an example, over which you may obtain four gyrations followed by four oscillations, when the serial number of iron is 4. The serial numbers obtained by Abbé Mermet are given, but it is observed that these numbers vary from one operator to another and according to the pendulum used. His serial number for water is 4, while in this country it is generally given as 2. In fact the authors say that you should not be surprised if you get a serial number of water 10 or 2 instead of 7. V.D.W.

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